

*A. unitana* has also been found in south Devon (v.c.3). Mr E.C. Pelham-Clinton took one at light at Axminster on 28th June 1986 and has kindly allowed me to publish his record. On 27th April 1987 at Bucks Mills, Devon (v.c.4) I found several *Aphelia* sp. larvae in spun leaves of *Rubus fruticosus* agg., *Heracleum sphondylium*, *Rumex acetosa* and *Mercurialis perennis*. These produced one male and several female *A. unitana* between 27th and 30th May 1987. Bradley, Tremewan and Smith (*loc. cit.*) describe the forewing of the male as having a silver-grey appearance, occasionally with a slight yellowish tinge. Both my male specimens have the forewing distinctly ochreous yellow.

Bradley, Tremewan and Smith do not describe the larva. The larvae I found were about half grown and the description I made was: head light brown, marked with black posteriorly; plate black finely bisected white; body greenish black with a faint light grey subspiracular line on the first two segments, pinacula black feintly ringed light grey; anal plate black. When full grown the description was the same except that the body was black, the subspiracular line was more distinct and the pinacula were more distinctly ringed light grey. The pupa was black. — R.J. HECKFORD, 67 Newnham Road, Plympton, Plymouth.

LATHYRUS PRATENSIS L. — A HOST PLANT OF LEUCOPTERA LATHYRIFOLIELLA (STT.) AND PHYLLONORYCTER NIGRESCENTELLA (LOGAN) — The unwisdom of not looking at certain plant species because nothing is believed to feed on them was exemplified in early August 1987 when E.C. Pelham-Clinton and I found mines of both the above species on *Lathyrus pratensis* at Branscombe, Devon. *L. lathyri-foliella* is well known in the area feeding on *Lathyrus sylvaticus* L., and *P. nigrescentella* has been found on *Vicia sepium* within half a mile, although no mines were found on this plant in the immediate vicinity. Dr J.R. LANGMAID, 1 Dorrita Close, Southsea, Hants PO4 0NY.

SOME HOST PLANTS OF THE SMALL FAN-FOOT MOTH, HERMINIA GRISEALIS D.&S. (LEP.: NOCTUIDAE) IN THE WILD — My experience suggests that this is most commonly met with in the vicinity of oaks. At Park Farm, Kidlington, Oxon where oak is poorly represented it was seldom seen during ten years of light trapping (1976-1986), although it occurred regularly at light traps in surrounding woods. Hofman's records (quoted in Barrett, 1900, *The Lepidoptera of the British Isles*. 6) of raspberry and blackberry as alternative foodplants are widely quoted (eg in South's *Moths of the British Isles* series I). Skinner, in *Colour identification guide to moths of the British Isles* gives oak and alder. Allen, 1949, *Larval foodplants*, gives only wild raspberry, although indicating that in captivity it will take a wide range of forest trees. Heath and Emmet in *MBGBI*, vol. 10 give oak "and other trees". The following records of feral larvae may therefore be of interest: